Date A Live Date A Akihabara

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Tohka

"Oohh....."

On a certain afternoon.

Sweat formed on Shidou's brow as he covered his mouth, slowly walking down the path.

Both sides of the path were filled with shops selling electronic appliances, manga, game centers and the like, on the exterior of the buildings, banners and signs with cute girls were displayed on it. It was a sight that is rarely seen at other streets.

Akihabara. Without a doubt, it is the sacred land for otakus.

But Shidou specifically took the train to this very street, yet did not enter any shops, only patronising the curry and ramen shops, and even the old shops that had a history selling soba and sukiyaki .

The reason for that was extremely simple.

"Nuu? What's the matter, Shidou, you look like you're suffering "

Saying that, Tohka, who had been walking in front of Shidou, looked back.

She was a girl with hair as dark as night and crystal clear eyes that makes it hard to believe that she was born with it. But her

energetic behaviour and happy smile, made the mysterious atmosphere around her become a more kind and amiable one.

That's right. Since morning, Shidou had been accompanying this gourmet to various shops as she pleased.

".....No matter how delicious this is, I really am at my limit."

"Uwuu.....Is that so. Then we should stop soon.——But, there's a place that I want to go. Can we?"

"Ahhh……But, I only want water to drink."

"Enn!"

Tohka energetically nodded, and led Shidou into a certain shop. And so———

"Welcome back! Ojou-sama, Goshujin-sama!"

"Oooh!"

Being greeted by a girl in a maid costume so courteously the instant they stepped into the shop, Shidou couldn't help but gasp.

After being brought to a seat by the maid, he waited for Tohka to make her order before voicing out.

"Heh.....They sure are quite particular about this. But, how shocking. I never thought Tohka would come to a maid cafe."

"Nwu.Their moe-moe omelette rice seem to be the best around here."

"……Ahhh, sorry about that, so it wasn't a coincidence after all."

Shidou laughed bitterly after saying so, after a while, the maid arrived with the omelette rice.

"Please enjoy the special moe-moe omelette rice! You can write your favourite word, what do you wish to write?"

"Nu.....? I don't know. Can I leave it to you?"

"Please leave it to me!"

After saying so, she opened the cap of the bottle of tomato sauce , skillfully wrote the word [moe], using a heart to act as the word's border.

"Oooh!? What is this! I want to try!"

After Tohka said so, the maid seemed troubled as she bitterly smiled.

"Although I don't mind, but it's already been written....."

"Uu!"

While Maid-san was still speaking, Tohka took her spoon and ate the omelette rice in one bite.

"Mogu mogu.....Nuu! This is delicious! Very delicious!"

She handed the maid the empty plate after she finished eating, licking her lips.

The maid was stunned for a while, then bowed to imply "I understand", before returning to the kitchen.

After a few minutes, she came back once more.

"Sorry to keep you waiting!"

"Oooh! It's here!"

Tohka's eyes shone brightly as she shouted. The maid put the plate on the table, and this time she gave the tomato sauce to Tohka.

"The secret is to finish writing it in one go. Please try your best, Ojou-sama!"

"Un!"

After Tohka nodded, she started to draw red lines on top of the omelette rice.

However, tomato sauce was squeezed out of the plate midway through.

"Uuuuh....."

After Tohka frowned, she picked up her spoon, and ate the omelette rice.

"Another!"

"I, I understand!"

The maid was in awe as she kept the plate.

"Oi, oi, Tohka."

"It's alright, shidou. The next time, it will definitely succeed!"

"N, no, I'm not referring to that....."

As Shidou said that, the next omelette rice arrived.

"——I succeeded!"

When Tohka cheered loudly in jubilation, it was after eating ten plates of moe-moe omelette rice. Cold sweat formed on Maid-san's shocked face. A crowd had started to gather unknowingly as well.

However Tohka ignored the gazes that people were giving her, looking satisfyingly at the omelette rice that has [Tohka] written on it.

"How is it, look at it shidou! I've written it very nicely!"

"Y, yeah.....you're right."

As Shidou smile bitterly after he said so, Tohka gave the plate of omelette rice a 180 degree turn, and turn it towards Shidou.

"Ahh, it's okay. I can see it properly from here."

After Shidou said that, Tohka shook her head.

"That's not it. —— That is, I hope that Shidou would eat this. I wrote it.....because of that."

"Ehh.....? A, aah, I'm sorry. Even though you did such a good....."

However, Shidou stopped speaking halfway. After seeing Tohka's eyes that were filled with anticipation, he couldn't say anything.

".....Itadakimasu."

"Nn! Please enjoy it!"

Tohka happily said.

Shidou held his stomach that was full to the point of nearly bursting, picking up the spoon.

Yoshino

"Wow....."

After stepping into the street full of electronic stores from the station, Yoshino widened her sapphire eyes.

Wearing a light colored one piece dress, she was a petite girl that wore a straw hat with a wide brim to her eyebrows. She had hair as blue as her eyes and skin as white as snow. There was a unique rabbit puppet on her left hand as well.

[Ouu—, so this is Akihabara—! It's really incredible—!]

Saying that, the puppet that was worn on her left hand [Yoshinon] opened its mouth to give out high-pitched shouts.

"There's so.....many, people....."

Yoshino on the other hand was replying while looking about.

That's right. The two of them (plus one) were using their weekend to visit Akihabara.

Shidou stood beside Yoshino, lightly patting Yoshino's head.

"Well then, let's go."

"Y, yes.....!"

Yoshino nodded her head. In order to let Yoshino catch up to his own pace, he deliberately walked slower than usual.

"Sorry, Shidou-san.....It's because of my obstinance....."

As they walked, Yoshino spoke to him with a faint voice.

"You didn't have to mind. I'm actually happy that Yoshino is able to speak honestly about how you feel."

"Ah, hau....."

After Shidou's reply, Yoshino pulled down the brim of her hat's in embarrassment. Shidou smiled wryly as he continued forward.

Shidou, Yoshino and [Yoshinon] were here to get a certain book.

It seems that Yoshino's favorite magical girl anime that was aired weekly in the mornings had released a premium fanbook..... The bookstores nearby have no more in stock, so she was unable to buy one.

Although it was anime geared towards little girls, but it was also an anime. There should still be stock remaining if it was Akihabara, so they came here.

"Nn, looks like this one is not bad. Let's go in and take a look."

Shidou stopped in front of what seems to be a store that specially sells anime related items.

"O, okay."

[Oou—, looks like business is booming here—]

Taking Yoshino's hand, they walking into the chaotic shop.

And piled up amongst the books at the counter, they found the premium fan book that they were looking for.

"Ah.....!"

"Oh, we've found it. Isn't that great, Yoshino."

"Yes.....!"

Yoshino nodded her head in joy.

"Then, I'll go and settle the bill while you wait here."

"Alright.....I understand."

After hearing Yoshino's reply, Shidou walked towards the counter.

[Look look Yoshino—, look at that—]

After Shidou walked to the counter, [Yoshinon] on her left hand suddenly spoke up.

"That?.....Ah."

Looking in the direction [Yoshinon] pointed, Yoshino's eyes widened.

Inside the shop, she saw books of the magical girls that she adored so much.

And the cover of the book was new to her eyes.

[Could that one be a premium collection too? Shall we go and take a look—]

"Eh.....But Shidou-san said to wait here for him....."

[It'll be alright, he's still queuing to pay, so let's just take a look.]

"Nn.....Just a little look.....then?"

Saying that, Yoshino walked towards the inside of the shop.

"Eh.....Yoshino, where did she go?"

Shidou returned after paying for the book, he found that Yoshino and [Yoshinon] had gone missing.

After looking around in confusion, he found Yoshino in front of a bookshelf inside the store, reading a book with a red face.

"Nn.....? Did you find an interesting book?"

Saying that he looked towards that bookshelf——Shidou's body immediately froze.

And at the top was a notice that had [Doujinshi (Restricted to 18yrs)] on it.

"Yo, Yoshino.....!?"

Shidou hastily ran over, grabbing hold of Yoshino's shoulder.

Yoshino's shoulder gave a jolt, closing the book that she was currently reading. It was a thin book that was B5 in size. On the cover was the illustration of the magical girl that Yoshino liked so much.....But it seems a bit too raunchy.

Yoshino trembled slightly, raising her head to look at Shidou.

"Shi, Shidou-san.....Mi, Misty she.....was by those men....."

"Th, that's not true! That was.....That's right! That was only someone who looked like Misty!"

"Some.....someone who looked like her.....?"

"Th, that's right. Wasn't there a saying that there will be two people in the world who looks exactly like you? This is definitely it !"

"Is, is that so....."

Although it sounded unbelievable, Yoshino did seem to be more calm than before. It seems that she too wished for an excuse to evade the reality that was before her.

"We, well then, we should be going back now. Is that alright?"

"Al, alright....."

Yoshino nodded her head, following Shidou's back and left the store.

However at that moment, Yoshino timidly asked Shidou a question.

"About that, Shidou-san.....that person who looked like Misty.....She, what was she doing.....?"

"....."

Cold sweat started to form on Shidou's face, he silently held Yoshino's hand and swiftly left the store.

Kurumi

"....."

Shidou walked down the street as cold sweat kept flowing down his cheek.

The reason for that was simple. That's because a certain girl was hugging his arm.

Taking a peep to his side. Over there was, dressed in black clothing, a terrifying yet beautiful girl.

Black hair that was tied into two bunches, porcelain white skin. When her bangs swayed while she walks, the left eye that had a clock-like pattern could be glimpsed.

Tokisaki Kurumi. Shidou's ex-classmate——as well as the most brutal spirit who is an enemy of humans.

Of course, Shidou is not accompanying such a dangerous person because he wanted to. Shidou was walking alone on the street when Kurumi suddenly showed up, forcefully bringing Shidou to this place.

Shidou looked around him. The walls of the buildings, were filled with illustrations of animation as well as the signs of electronic stores.

That's right. Shidou was, brought to Akihabara.

"......Well then, bringing me to such a place, what are you planning?"

After tensely inquiring, Kurumi revealed a coquettish smile.

"Kihi, please don't be so uptight. Today I only wish for Shidou-san to be eaten——Actually, I only wish to play with Shidou-san."

"......You just said the word [eat] right. [Eat]."

"Ara ara ara."

After Shidou pointed that out with narrowed eyes, Kurumi snickered as though trying to change the topic.

Shidou's distrust slowly grew larger——but he was unable to escape. If he decided to do so, the possibility of him being immediately pulled into the shadows existed. Since he would be a goner the instant he is dragged in, he had no choice but to accompany Kurumi until she was satisfied.

After that, not long after Kurumi stopped in front of a certain store.

"This is the place."

"This is....."

"Kihihi, you'll understand once you enter."

"Ah.....oi, oi."

Being forcefully pulled by the arm, he stepped into the store.

Inside the shop, various clothing and accessories were displayed.

"A costume store.....huh?"

Although Shidou decided that from a glance, he soon realized that there was something different.

Amongst the various costumes that were tightly packed and displayed, he could vaguely see that there are some designs that were familiar to him.....the materials seem to be exceptionally smooth.....or should he say that the overall designs had an individuality to them.

"This is.....what they call cosplay.....huh?"

"It's just as you say."

That's right. Displayed in the surroundings, were the cosplay clothes of the anime and manga characters brought to reality.

"Why did you.....bring me to this kind of place?"

"Kihihi, because, it seems like it would be interesting."

Kurumi showed a slight smile, finally loosening her hold on his arm.

"Since we are allowed to try them for free, let me try a few. Please wait here for a while. ——If you escape, I'll get angry you know?"

Her tone changed subtly, the corner of Kurumi's mouth started to twist.

Of course he won't try and escape. Cold sweat formed on Shidou's forehead as he nodded repeatedly.

After Kurumi nodded her head in satisfaction, she selected a few clothes and entered the changing room.

A few minutes later, the curtain of the changing room was forcefully pulled open.

A silver shirt that reveals the shoulders accentuated with a green tie, a black frilled dress, Kurumi who was wearing a wig of green hair (as well as twin ponytails that seemed to be too long), made a pose.

"What do you think?"

"About that....."

"I'll make you do the miku miku?"

"Although you look just like her, but I really can't take it when you say that!"

Following a few more minutes, the curtain of the changing room opened once more.

This time Kurumi, her body was being tightly wrapped in a white bodysuit. Wearing a light blue wig on her head, her body had bandages on various areas for some reason.

"Even if I die, I can be replaced." (That's true!)

"That's not funny at all!"

After a few more minutes.

Kurumi, wore a apron costume that had a large quantity of lace. Her two hands wore large gloves. Wearing a green coloured wig, furthermore, two bells can be seen on her cat eared cap.

"What do you think?"

"Why does the voice sound so similar as well!" (The voice actress for Kurumi is the same as the character in Di Gi Charat!)

.....Although nothing has happened, but Shidou felt exceptionally fatigued. He let out a deep sigh.

And then, Kurumi who was wearing the cat ears and apron, took the next set of clothing. It was a skirt that had the Gothic Lolita style that Kurumi usually wears.

"Uh.....Are you intending to wear this one next?"

"That's not correct. This one is——"

Kurumi she, passed the clothes in her hands to Shidou.

"For Shidou-san."

".....Haa?"

Shidou's eyes widened.

"No, no no no. Hold on a minute. Why do I have to wear this now. Furthermore this one is definitely for females!"

"Kihihi, you don't have to point out the small details. Now, please come over here. Let's take a photo together once you are done changing."

"Ah.....no, wait, st, stooooppppppppp!?"

Shidou's cries, echoed within the store.

Kotori

"......Really now, why do I have to come to this sort of place....."

Her two arms folded in front of her while making a sound, Kotori unhappily grumbled while walking behind Shidou.

She is a young girl who tied her long hair into two bunches with black ribbons. A petite figure, with conspicuous round, acorn like eyes, however her current expression, had the feel of impatience mixed in.

"Now now, don't say it like that. Isn't it fine, doing this once in a while?"

Shidou smiled bitterly as he said that in his attempt to pacify her, Kotori pointed her lollipop stick in her mouth to the sky.

At present the location that Shidou and Kotori were headed, was the multi purpose hall located within Akihabara. Belle Salle Akihabara.

Due to the first floor of the massive building having spaces that are freely accessible to the public, it seems that an event was being held there, as a huge crowd had gathered here.

"Oh, we're here. Let's see, the stall is at.....ah."

"Alright, it's this way. Don't be such a slowpoke."

Kotori pointed in the direction of the massive crowd. Shidou's eyes widened.

"What's this, so you already knew about it, Kotori."

"Hmph, all you need to do is to research beforeha——That's not it, isn't this common sense! Alright, let's hurry and do what we're supposed to do and go home!"

Saying that, Kotori pulled the corner of Shidou's clothes, walking ahead like that.

"Wah, don't pull!"

Shidou almost lost his balance for a moment, hastily regaining his balance, he was dragged off by Kotori.

The two of them, had an extremely simple reason for visiting this street that they would rarely come to.

That's because, Kotori's favorite light novel series was about to be serialized, furthermore an event seemed to have been organized in Akihabara.

Despite that, Kotori did not have much interest in the event itself.....however she immediately changed her mind once she saw the list of items on sale.

That's because, the lollipop that a certain character within the series likes to eat, is apparently being sold with limited stock.

However to join such an event is embarrassing, in the end Kotori who was staring longingly at the computer screen could not take it any longer——half-forcefully dragged Shidou to Akihabara.

As they joined the queue, they looked around their surroundings. Staff members were wearing blue jackets, selling T-shirts and distributing folders. Deep inside the crowd, a massive throne-like object could be seen. It appears to be an equipment in the novel. It looked just like <Sandalphon>.

"Hey.....Kotori, the title of the light novel that you're reading, what is it called?"

"Date Alive."

"....."

Why. There was a feeling of danger. Although he did not know why, but he felt a strange sense of danger.

After that, just like that the queue moved forward, it was Shidou and Kotori's turn.

"Welcome~. Please look around~."

The staff members at the stall said as such, smiling.

However Kotori had an expression of boredom, looking at the goods displayed——her eyebrow twitched for a moment.

".....? Where's the candy?"

After Kotori inquired, the female staff member lowered her head in apology.

"I'm really sorry. The lollipop, has been sold out not too long ago....."

"Eh....."

After Kotori widened her eyes, she did not speak for some time.

Soon after, she once again pulled the corner of Shidou's clothes, exiting the queue.

"Oi, oi, Kotori? Is that alright?"

"......Hmph, it can't be helped if it's gone. Furthermore, I didn't have any interest in the first place. I just came here because Shidou , you dragged me here."

"....."

Looking at Kotori's back, Shidou pressed his lips tight.

After standing his ground, he removed Kotori's hand that was grabbing his clothes.

"......What, what's wrong?"

"Just, wait here for me."

"Eh? Wait, where are you going!"

With Kotori's voice calling out behind him, Shidou raced into the streets of Akihabara.

About an hour later.

"Haa....., haa....."

Panting heavily, Shidou returned to Kotori's side.

"What's with you, making me wait so long. Where on earth did you go to?"

Kotori's mood seemed to have worsened immensely from before, she folded her arms and glared fiercely. Shidou smiled wryly as he took out something from his pocket.

——That was, a lollipop that had an anime character on it.

"Eh——"

Kotori instantly went silent.

"H, how did you get, that."

"Ah.....I just thought that someone could have bought more than one....."

"So you went to find someone and begged him to sell one to you!? Ar, are you an idiot!?"

"Uguh....."

Honestly speaking, he was unable to deny that. He himself thought that doing this was highly inefficient.

However, it was rare that Kotori would wish for something so badly. If he was unable to get it by doing this, then he would have been disqualified as an elder brother.

"Well, isn't it alright now. Take it."

".....Un."

After handing over the lollipop, Kotori accepted with a slightly red face.

After scrutinizing it for a while, she wrapped it with her handkerchief as though it was some precious item, putting it in her bag.

"What's the matter, aren't you going to eat it?"

"Y, you're noisy! I should be the one to decide what to do with something that was given to me!"

"We, well even though what you say is true....."

".....How can I, bear to eat it."

"Eh?"

"It's nothing. Alright, we're going home."

Saying that, Kotori started to walk in the direction of the station.

Her footsteps, seemed to be lighter than before.